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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Ryutaro YAMANAKA et al.

Group Art Unit : 2133

Appl. No : 10/748,242

Examiner: M.M. Chaudry

Filed : December 31, 2003

Confirmation No.: 6967

For : PROCESSING UNIT AND PROCESSING METHOD

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116**

Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop Amendment  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria VA 22314

Sir:

In response to the Final Official Action of May 23, 2006, in which a three-month shortened statutory period for response was set to expire on August 23, 2006, the present Response being filed on or by the two-moth date of July 24, 2006 from the Final Official Action (July 23, 2006 falling on a Sunday), Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of each of the rejections in the Final Official Action, in view of the herein-contained amendments and remarks and the attached Terminal Disclaimer.

Clean copies of previously submitted PTO-1449 Forms are attached hereto.  
A Terminal Disclaimer is attached hereto.  
Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.  
Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.